

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/801,932

Examiner

Taghi T. Arani

Applicant(s)

LU, LARRY L.

Art Unit

2131

## - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address-

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/25/2006.
2. ☐ The allowed claim(s) is/are 78,80-91,93-104 and 106-116.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Taghi T. Arani  
Primary Examiner  
Aug 21 2006  
D. T. Arani  
8/22/06

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. The text of those sections of Title 35 U.S. Code not included in this section can be found in the prior office action.
2. The prior office actions are incorporated herein by reference. In particular, the observations with respect to claim language, and response to previously presented arguments.
3. Claims 1-77, 79,92 and 105 have been cancelled.
4. Claims 78, 80-91, 93-103, 104 have been amended.
5. Claims 78, 80-91, 93-104, 106-116 , now re-numbered as claims 1-35 are pending

### **Drawings**

6. New corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in this application because the drawing filed 03/09/2001 are informal. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

7. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Babak Akhlaghi on 6/21/2006.

Claims 91, 93-103 have been replace with:

91. (Currently amended) A system for monitoring electronic messages that are directed to an intended recipient, the system comprising:  
at least one processing device; and  
a storage device storing instructions for causing the at least one processing device to perform the following operations:

~~a establishing software module that establishes~~ establish a supervisory relationship between a supervisory person and an intended recipient ~~wherein the establishing software module comprises an associating software module that establishes the supervisory relationship between the supervisory person and the intended recipient~~ by, at least, associating an electronic message address of the supervisory person with an electronic message address of the intended recipient;

~~a receiving software module that receives~~ receive electronic messages transmitted across a delivery network from one or more sender devices and directed to the intended recipient;

~~a delivery software module that delivers~~ deliver a first one of the electronic messages to the supervisory person without notifying the intended recipient that the first electronic message has been delivered to the supervisory person;

~~a review software module that enables~~ enable the supervisory person to review and approve the first electronic message after the first electronic message has been delivered to the supervisory person; and

~~a notification software module that enables~~ enable notification of the first electronic message to be provided to the intended recipient only if the supervisory person approves the first electronic message.

93. (Currently amended) The system of claim 91 wherein the intended recipient is a minor child and the supervisory person is a guardian for the minor child, ~~such that the associating software module associates~~ and, to establish the supervisory

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relationship between the supervisory person and the intended recipient, the instructions include instructions for causing the at least one processing device to associate an electronic message address of the guardian with an electronic message address of the minor child.

94. (Currently amended) The system of claim 91 wherein the intended recipient is an employee and the supervisory person is an employer for the employee, ~~such that the software module associates~~ and, to establish the supervisory relationship between the supervisory person and the intended recipient, the instructions include instructions for causing the at least one processing device to associate an electronic message address of the employer with an electronic message address of the employee.

95. (Currently amended) The system of claim 91 wherein, ~~the delivery software module comprises to deliver the first one of the electronic messages to the supervisory person,~~ the instructions include instructions for causing the at least one processing device to:

~~an examining module that examines~~ examine a header of the first electronic message to determine whether the header includes the electronic message address of the intended recipient;

~~a determining software module that determines~~ determine the electronic message address of the supervisory person associated with the electronic message address of the intended recipient; and

~~a routing software module that routes~~ route the first electronic message to the electronic message address of the supervisory person.

96. (Previously presented) The system of claim 95 wherein the intended recipient and the supervisory person each have different electronic message addresses for a single Internet service provider account.

97. (Currently amended) The system of claim 91 further comprising instructions stored on the storage device for causing the at least one processing device to:  
~~an examining module that examines~~ examine a header of a second one of the electronic messages to determine an electronic address of the sender of the second electronic message;  
~~a comparing module that compares~~ compare the determined electronic address of the sender of the second electronic message to at least one sender list, and  
~~an approving/rejecting module that approves or rejects~~ approve or reject the electronic message based on a result of the comparison.

98. (Currently amended) The system of claim 97 wherein the at least one sender list includes a list of approved senders, ~~such that the comparing module compares and, to compare the determined electronic address of the sender of the second electronic message to the at least one sender list, the instructions include instructions for causing the at least one processing device to compare~~ the determined electronic address to the list of approved senders.

99. (Currently amended) The system of claim 97 wherein the at least one sender list includes a list of blocked senders, ~~such that the comparing module compares and, to compare the determined electronic address of the sender of the second electronic message to the at least one sender list, the instructions include instructions for causing the at least one processing device to compare~~ the determined electronic address to the list of blocked senders.

100. (Currently amended) The system of claim 91 wherein the electronic messages are e-mails, ~~such that the receiving module receives and, to receive the electronic messages, the instructions include instructions for causing the at least one processing device to receive~~ e-mails transmitted across a delivery network from one or more sender devices and directed to the intended recipient.

101. (Currently amended) The system of claim 91 wherein the electronic messages are instant messages, ~~such that the receiving module receives and, to receive~~ the electronic messages, the instructions include instructions for causing the at least one processing device to receive instant messages transmitted across a delivery network from one or more sender devices and directed to the intended recipient.

102. (Currently amended) The system of claim 91 wherein the electronic messages are chat room messages, ~~such that the receiving module receives and, to receive~~ the electronic messages, the instructions include instructions for causing the at least one processing device to receive chat room messages transmitted across a delivery network from one or more sender devices and directed to the intended recipient.

103. (Currently amended) The system of claim 91 ~~wherein the delivering module delivers~~ further comprising instructions stored on the storage device for causing the at least one processing device to:

deliver a second one of the electronic messages to the supervisory person without notifying the intended recipient that the second electronic message has been delivered to the supervisory person; ~~the system further comprising a forwarding/deleting module that automatically forwards or deletes and~~

forward or delete the second one of the electronic message if the supervisory person does not review and approve the second one of the electronic message within a period of time after delivery of the second one of the electronic message to the supervisory person.

### **Response to Arguments**

8. Applicant's arguments filed 5/25/2006 in view of the above Examiner's Amendment and the telephonic interview conducted on 5/24/2006 have been fully considered and they are persuasive.

### **Allowable Subject matter**

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8. Claims 78, 80-91, 93-104, 106-116 are allowed over prior art of record.

### **Conclusion**

Prior arts made of record, not relied upon:

US 2004/0181690 to Rothermed et al. is directed to a facility for managing multiple network security devices from a manager device.

US 6,854,074 to McLellen et al. is directed to method of remotely monitoring an internet web site.

US 6,167,450 to Angwin et al. is directed to data communications management system and protocol replacement method for mobile communication environments

EP 1 209 866 relates to an information stream monitoring system comprising an information monitoring device that monitors one or more electronic documents in an information stream.

EP 1 079 318 discloses a message processing system.

EP 0375 138 is directed to method for restricting the delivery and receipt of electronic messages which are delivered to selected recipients via a computer network.

SpectorSoft Corporation, Industry Leading Spy Software Company Announces Instant Messaging Feature in Spector Professional Edition, April 24, 2002.

SpectorSoft Corporation, SpectorSoft Corporation Ships Major Upgrade of eBlaster, August 21, 2002.

Press release, SpectorSoft Corporation, SpectorSoft Announces New Version of Award Winning Spector Software, MAY 18, 2000.


Negel Miller, Can an employer monitor its employees' E-mail?, Computer Audit Update, May 1997.

The above press releases by SpectorSoft Corporation provide brief description of SpectorSoft software for screening email, chat-room and instant messages.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Taghi T. Arani whose telephone number is (571) 272-3787. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:30 Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Taghi T. Arani, Ph.D.  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2131  
6/22/06